

To: Wendel, Arthur[Wendel.Arthur@epa.gov]; Wendel, Arthur (ATSDR/DCHI/WB)[dvq6@cdc.gov]
Cc: Kaetzel, Rhonda (ATSDR/DCHI/WB)[vnc2@cdc.gov]; Sarcone, Joseph M. (ATSDR/DCHI/WB)[iqq5@cdc.gov]; Littleton, Christine[Littleton.Christine@epa.gov]; Soderlund, Dianne[Soderlund.Dianne@epa.gov]; Allnutt, David[Allnutt.David@epa.gov]
From: Jen, Mark
Sent: Fri 7/29/2016 10:37:48 PM
Subject: RE: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Greetings Arthur!

I was out of the office earlier this week, so I am now getting backing to responding to emails.

Thank you for those great questions!

EPA has recommended to the Corps of Engineers, the lead federal agency developing the Donlin Gold EIS that the HIA should be included in the EIS as an appendix and the HIA should be public noticed for tribal, public and peer review.

The State indicated that any public comments received on the Donlin Gold Project DEIS for the Human Health Section would be addressed in the next version of the HIA. However, EPA believes that the HIA development process under NEPA should include public/tribal/peer review of the HIA before the HIA is finalized and the information included in the EIS.

The Corps indicated that they were planning to meet with the State of Alaska to discuss their concerns for not wanting to include the HIA in the EIS and not public noticing the HIA for public/tribal/peer review and comment. The EIS/NEPA is a public process. I am hoping that EPA's upper management will have a follow up discussion with the State to identify their concerns with the HIA development process under NEPA.

The decision on whether the Donlin Gold Project HIA should be peer reviewed by CDC/ATSDR as a general review or a technical review should be made by you and your supervisor. EPA would appreciate a general and technical review of the HIA, but we understand that there may be a huge commitment of time and resources to conduct a more detailed technical review.

Please discuss this matter with your supervisor to determine the priority level for the Donlin Gold Project HIA. A general review, at first, may result in a decision that a detailed technical review may be warranted by CDC/ASTDR.

Thank you for your time and attention to the Donlin Gold Project Health Impact Assessment. Please let EPA know if you need more time for your general and/or technical review.

Have a great weekend.

Mark

From: Wendel, Arthur
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 11:35 AM
To: Jen, Mark <Jen.Mark@epa.gov>; Wendel, Arthur (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <dvq6@cdc.gov>
Cc: Kaetzel, Rhonda (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <vnc2@cdc.gov>; Sarcone, Joseph M. (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <iqq5@cdc.gov>; Littleton, Christine <Littleton.Christine@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Mark,

Thank you for providing some clarifying information. I still need some help understanding how to frame the review and

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understanding how our comments can lead to changes that can improve public health.

Is the HIA going to be fully inserted into the EIS or is this just a reference document for the EIS? The cover letter for the HIA suggests the latter. The EIS that I reviewed previously included human health sections, but it did reference the HIA. As the EIS is reviewed, how is the HIA included (or not) into that review? If the only changes from our comments will be directed toward what is included in the human health section of the EIS, should our review be limited those items that are included in the draft EIS?

Note that HIA peer review can include several different types of review (http://hiasociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Brief_on_HIA_Peer_Review_3_3_16_logo.pdf). While ATSDR may be able to complete a general review, a technical review of topics like injury prevention, vaccine-preventable diseases, and infectious diseases, are outside of the scope of ATSDR's traditionally-defined areas of expertise. Is this a request for review that EPA is making to CDC/ATSDR?

Thanks,

Arthur

From: Jen, Mark [<mailto:Jen.Mark@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 11:16 AM
To: Wendel, Arthur (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <dvq6@cdc.gov>
Cc: Kaetzel, Rhonda (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <vnc2@cdc.gov>; Sarcone, Joseph M. (ATSDR/DCHI/WB) <iqq5@cdc.gov>; Littleton, Christine <Littleton.Christine@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Greetings Arthur,

What we were envisioning is a peer review of the Donlin Gold Project Health Impact Assessment prepared by the State of Alaska.

The State did not go out for public, tribal, or peer review and comment of the HIA before the information was incorporated into the Human Health section of the DEIS. This review should be an established part of the overall HIA development process.

A peer review of the HIA will ensure that the assumptions, methodologies, models, conclusions, etc. used to develop the HIA are based on established procedures accepted by health and risk assessment practitioners.

We plan to provide your comments to the State and the Corps of Engineers, who is the lead for the EIS development. Any major issues from your review comments will help inform the Corps on what additional work and/or changes, if any, are needed to the Human Health Section before finalizing the EIS.

I hope I was able to address your questions. Please let me know if you have additional questions and comments.

Thank you for your time and expertise on this project!

All the best!

Mark

From: Wendel, Arthur
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2016 11:01 AM
To: Littleton, Christine <Littleton.Christine@epa.gov>
Cc: Kaetzel, Rhonda <Kaetzel.Rhonda@epa.gov>; Joe Sarcone <iqq5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Christine,

I need a bit of help with understanding the request for review and comments on the HIA. The HIA on the Donlin Goal Project identifies a number of potential health impacts, determines whether the project will improve or diminish health through these impacts, rates the importance of each impact, and identifies potential action steps for each impact and monitoring/evaluation approaches to promote health.

Can you please provide some clarification about what you would like ATSDR to review in the document and comment on? What will our comments be used to do? Is there a specific question that you see ATSDR being able to help answer?

Thanks,

Arthur

From: Littleton, Christine

Sent: Friday, July 22, 2016 10:45 AM

To: Kissinger, Lon <Kissinger.Lon@epa.gov>; Kaetzel, Rhonda <Kaetzel.Rhonda@epa.gov>

Cc: Jen, Mark <Jen.Mark@epa.gov>; Wendel, Arthur <Wendel.Arthur@epa.gov>; Joe Sarcone <iqq5@cdc.gov>

Subject: FW: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Hello Lon and Rhonda,

The Corps released the Feb 2016 draft HIA to the cooperating agencies last week. We would very much appreciate your expert opinions on the document (attached). While there is no specific due date for the review, we want our comments to be early enough to influence the final EIS. Is 30 days feasible?

Thank you for your help.

Teena Littleton

(formerly Reichgott)

Manager, Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit

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From: Jen, Mark

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2016 3:15 PM

To: Littleton, Christine <Littleton.Christine@epa.gov>

Cc: Soderlund, Dianne <Soderlund.Dianne@epa.gov>; Fordham, Tami <Fordham.Tami@epa.gov>; Allnutt, David <Allnutt.David@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Hi Teena,

Here it is attached.

Thanks

Mark

From: Littleton, Christine
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2016 1:50 PM
To: Jen, Mark <Jen.Mark@epa.gov>
Cc: Soderlund, Dianne <Soderlund.Dianne@epa.gov>; Fordham, Tami <Fordham.Tami@epa.gov>; Allnutt, David <Allnutt.David@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Yes, I can make that request, both to Lon and to ATSDR. Do you have an electronic version of the document?

Teena Littleton
(formerly Reichgott)
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From: Jen, Mark
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2016 2:33 PM
To: Littleton, Christine <Littleton.Christine@epa.gov>
Cc: Soderlund, Dianne <Soderlund.Dianne@epa.gov>; Fordham, Tami <Fordham.Tami@epa.gov>; Allnutt, David <Allnutt.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Donlin Gold Project HIA released to cooperating agencies

Hi Teena,

The Corps released the Draft HIA for the Donlin Gold Project (Feb 2016) to the Cooperating Agencies. The Corps requested that this document remain within the cooperating agencies.

The document is over 200 pages. Is this something we can request Lon K. to review and comment? It would be great if we can have ATSDR conduct a detailed review as well.

We should get comments to the Corps for inclusion in the Donlin Gold FEIS.

Thanks

Mark S. Jen
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